IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Desjoyaux et al.

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Thomas M. Lithgow

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Group Art Unit: 1724

Title: PIPE-CONNECTING DEVICE

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted electronically to: Examiner Thomas M. Lithgow, Group Art Unit 1724, United States Patent and Trademark Office, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 20, 2006.

Attorney for Applicant Reg. No. 26,429

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 22, 2006, kindly amend the above-identified application as follows: